



CHAPTER NOTES

Edited by Grace E. McGinnis

ALABAMA Birmingham

205/979-8132 or 205/785-4864

Summer meetings are usually difficult to entice good membership attendance, but with an active group like the Alabama Chapter it is no problem. The common interest is the Wurlitzer in the Alabama Theatre, which is in better shape now than it has been in forty years, thanks to Larry Donaldson, Ola Fee, Sam Troutman and their Saturday work crews. The brilliant program which was presented by Rick McGee of the Atlanta Chapter, and the special snack presented by Betty Crowe, Bea Fee and Alice Kenerdine after the meeting was a winning combination and an example of how to do it.

Mr. Rick McGee came to Birmingham the day before our meeting and guided the preparation of the organ so that it would respond exactly to his desired timbre. The result was obvious by the applause for his masterful control of the instrument. Mr. McGee, we predict, will be an artist in great demand in the future.

Mr. Floyd Hauffe, Chairman, has encouraged increased open membership and, as a result, our roster is greater than it has ever been. This boasts of a large list of active, working members. For instance, we learned on a Thursday that the city of Birmingham purchased the Ritz Theatre. Permission to acquire and remove the theatre organ was granted, a work crew was organized, and the organ was removed and stored on Saturday and Sunday. Those of you who know the work involved in removing the pipes, chests and blower from a height of forty feet can attest to how much was done in just four days. We are sorry to see the loss of another theatre, but are happy that we had the opportunity to save the theatre organ.

The Alabama Theatre in Birmingham was sold on June 25, 1982, to Pedro Costa and Nelson Head. They have great plans for the renovation and operation of the theatre in the future which will include good use of the Wurlitzer organ. Another step in the right direction.

Our meetings have been changed to two o'clock in the afternoon on the second Saturday of the month at the



Krehl King, chapter member and staff organist at the Organ Loft, opened with a mini-concert on the Wurlitzer. (H. Weirauch photo)



Lowell Boberg gives report to the assembled members. (H. Weirauch photo)

Alabama Theatre, and we can seat at least twenty-four hundred. Y'all come!

RAY KENERDINE

BEEHIVE

Salt Lake City

801/467-5700 or 801/486-9098

Members of the Beehive Chapter enjoyed the rare treat of a cook-out at the residence of Cal Christensen who lives high above the smog of Salt Lake City in a beautiful home he built himself amid the natural beauty of Emigration Canyon. While residents of the Salt Lake Valley were sweltering, the Beehive Chapter members were basking in the first cooling touch of fall in Cal's backyard on the evening of Friday, August 13. The sharp air added zest to the appetites as hamburgers were grilled and tasty salads prepared. Forty members and guests enjoyed the food and came back for second helpings, thanks to the skill of Wayne Russell, chapter secretary, and Chairman Clarence Briggs.

The business meeting followed with Chairman Briggs presiding. He brought the chapter members up to date on current pertinent events, one of them being the appointment of Lowell J. Boberg as director to fill the unexpired term of Bill Petty who recently moved to California. He also spoke of planned meetings of the chapter, one for September and one in conjunction with the Organ Club of Salt Lake City.

Harry Weirauch, co-chairman of the Capitol Theatre Organ restoration, then reported on the progress of that project. Nearly 5000 man-hours

have been expended to this point, and all that remains for completion is checking the work out and installing the rank of Trumpets, long on order but still not arrived.

Following the meeting everyone enjoyed a pleasant open console session.

LOWELL J. BOBERG

CENTRAL FLORIDA THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY



Tampa

813/384-1854 or 813/863-2264

In August our meeting was held at the Baldwin Family Music Center. During the business meeting our chapter representative, Earl Wiltse, gave us a fine report on the National Convention. Also, member Dr. Robert Hines demonstrated the Vibraharp which he donated to the chapter. The tone is beautiful, and it will eventually be installed in the theatre. After the meeting the members were entertained by Bob Speaker, one of our members who is associated with the Baldwin store in Tampa. Bob's program included a variety of well-known tunes. His "Tico-Tico," which featured hands on pedals, was especially well done.

Our September meeting was held at the Torell's home in Dunedin. The good news was announced that the re-wiring of the twelve chests has been completed, and wiring from the chests to the electronic driver boards is underway for the Tampa Theatre Wurlitzer installation. After a short concert by Sandra Shook, members enjoyed open console on the Torell's Baldwin Cinema II. New members we would like to welcome are Jesse Chow, Mr. and Mrs. Blake Braley, and Robert Alexander.

SANDRA SHOOK

CENTRAL INDIANA

Indianapolis

317/283-3410 or 317/786-2160

A pleasant July afternoon found Central Indiana Chapter members meeting with friends and guests at the Piano Showcase, a piano and organ

sales company. Tim Needler, National Secretary and chapter member, brought the group up to date on convention news and new laws and by-laws. We were honored to have a guest, John Robson, from Kingston, Ontario. The Kingston chapter was recognized at the convention as a new chapter. Tim Needler then presented the program for the day on a Kawai organ. This was a new instrument to Tim, but he did not have any problem producing music from the organ.

August 9 found the chapter virtually up to their elbows in spaghetti. Bob MacNeur and wife Donna Parker MacNeur, manager and organist at the Paramount Music Palace in Indianapolis, allowed the group to have this spaghetti dinner on the restaur-

ant's night off. This was a money-making project to help build the Dessa Byrd Memorial Fund which was established in her memory to help further education for young organists in this area. Dessa Byrd Rappaport was a local pipe organist who played several of the pipe organs in this city in the '20s, '30s and '40s. She was elected to the ATOS Hall of Fame in 1976 and passed away in May, 1977.

The main star of the evening was Dennis Minear, organist from the Cardinal Pizza in Fort Wayne. Virginia Byrd Rechteris, sister of Dessa and an organist in her own right, played the Paramount's Mighty Wurlitzer to accompany Berneice Fraction, a local lyric soprano. Following these organists, Ken Double, organist



A SPECIAL MESSAGE TO CHAPTER CORRESPONDENTS

Let us know what's happening in YOUR chapter. Our goal is to make this section as interesting and useful as possible for all of our readers. Here is how YOU can help:

DO remember you have an international audience;
pay attention to deadlines—we have to meet them, too;
check the spelling of artists' names;
tell us about theatre organs in your area, public and private;
tell us about theatre restorations in your area;
tell us about your community involvement, new artists, scholarships, promotional programs involving your chapter;
tell us about coming events and how visitors to your area may obtain tickets;
tell us who is playing what organs and where;
include photos whenever possible; and
send your chapter bulletins to the editor—they are very helpful.

DON'T include the program each of your artists plays—mention, perhaps, an outstanding arrangement;
include news that is only of interest to your local chapter, or gossip, menus or other trivia.

SEND news, photos and chapter bulletins to:
Editor, THEATRE ORGAN
3448 Cowper Court, Palo Alto, CA 94306

All copy for Chapter Notes is to be typewritten, double-spaced, on 8½ x 11 white paper, with 1½" margins all around. Photos should be black and white for best reproduction. Type each photo caption on a separate sheet and attach to the photo.

DEADLINES

Dec. 1 for Jan./Feb.	June 1 for July/Aug.
Feb. 1 for Mar./Apr.	Aug. 1 for Sept./Oct.
Apr. 1 for May/June	Oct. 1 for Nov./Dec.

and local TV sports commentator, played some of Dessa's favorites. Two hundred members, guests and friends attended. The Memorial Fund was increased by a nice amount, and everyone attending had a great deal of fun and entertainment. A few club members provided the necessary services for distributing the food and drinks, and that was fun, too.

A new pizza restaurant and pipe organ home has begun in Central Indiana. Dr. John Elleman's Pipe Dream opened in downtown Kokomo in mid-July. Bill Tandy of Chicago has become the organist for this venture. The decor of the pizzeria is "neat," and after only a week or two of operation was making a big hit in Kokomo which is only about fifty miles north of Indianapolis, not too far for chapter members to visit even for an evening.

Ed Morris was host for the August chapter meeting, a popular meeting as it is also a pitch-in dinner. Ed has a pipe organ installed in his home and a nice big swimming pool in his backyard. Both of these installations kept young and old alike busy for the afternoon.

Fall will soon be with us with its hazy days and leaves turning. Our chapter is planning a bus tour to Columbus, Ohio, in September in lieu of a meeting. With beautiful weather and scenery, this should be an outstanding event of the fall season.

MARY LOU HARRELL

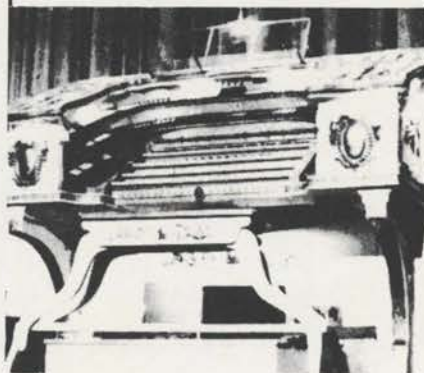


**Chicago Area Theatre
Organ Enthusiasts**

312/470-0743 or 312/627-3245

Chicago Area Theatre Organ Enthusiast's September show, "Remember Radio," at the Chicago Theatre was an entertainment success. The board of directors of Plitt Theatres has presented the city of Chicago with an offer to "swap" the Chicago Theatre and the Page Bros. Building for a parcel of land in the city's North-Loop Development Scheme. CATOE is setting its sights on keeping the Chicago Theatre Wurlitzer in the Chicago Theatre. The Schubert Organization toured the theatre on Septem-

HOLIDAY GREETINGS
from
Members of J.A.T.O.E.
and
The Rialto Theatre, Joliet, Ill.



ber 15 and the organ was part of their tour. CATOE's Dennis Wolkowicz did the musical honors. Bob Chaney continues to play intermissions at the Chicago on Friday and Saturday nights.

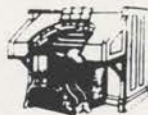
CATOE's Halloween Spook Special at the Patio Theatre was a great success. Rob Calcaterra played the Barton organ in concert, sing-along, and silent film accompaniment for a Harold Lloyd film.

Warmest Holiday Wishes from
CATOE!

CHRISTOPHER CARLO



**CONNECTICUT VALLEY
THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY, INC.**



Thomaston

203/378-9192 or 203/583-8334

Our August meeting took place at the home of Gen Roberg in Plymouth, a great setting for a gathering of organ enthusiasts. Lovely lawns outside, and inside a mellow-voiced pipe organ, built by the late Jack Roberg, provided picnicking opportunities without and console exercise within.

The evening portion of the day's program was carried on at the Thomaston Opera House where, promptly at 6:30, Allen Miller presided at the console of the Marr & Colton for the playing of the overture. The main events were two fine old motion pictures, *Singin' in the*

Rain and *On the Town*, both starring Gene Kelly. An intermission, complete with popcorn, lent authenticity to the evening.

Thanks to Gen Roberg's kind hospitality and the efforts of the opera house crew, we enjoyed a very memorable meeting, indeed.

Again this September, Bill Hastings and Joe Colliano held open house for ATOS friends in their luxurious residence on Cape Cod. Their home is complete with Wurlitzer pipe organ, electronic organ, grand piano and numerous objets d'art. Program manager Bob Bailey had arranged for an afternoon organ presentation by Earl Rounds. Earl plays the organ very well, indeed, and he entertained an attentive audience for over an hour, which seemed like a fraction of that. During the evening open console he favored us with additional music.

After dinner we re-assembled in the "Jobi Music Hall" which seats seventy or so people comfortably. Our hosts began the evening program they had prepared for us with Bill Hastings at the console to open with "Spring is Here." He was later joined by Joe Colliano at the piano for some great music-making. These two are a unique combination of keyboard talent and hearing them makes it easy to understand why their summer benefit programs on behalf of the North Truro Historical Society are so popular.

After the assembled guests had, with reluctance, allowed our hosts to leave the keyboards, open console was again in order, as were delicious refreshments with which to cap a day of music and hospitality that was memorable, indeed. Many, many thanks to Bill and Joe.

September 25, 26 console artist Larry Ferrari again held forth at the Marr & Colton in the Thomaston Opera House. Larry is well-known to us, having played at Thomaston a number of previous engagements, so we anticipated a varied program of well-arranged music to include some old favorites, some specialty numbers, some light classics and some musical stage selections all competently played with Larry's own registrations that make our organ sound so magnificent. We were not disappointed, and it was good to see and hear Larry again. Larry enjoys what is today unique employment for an organist. He has a regular radio pro-

gram in Philadelphia that features organ music. What a great way to keep in practice.

Pizza, Pipes, & Pandemonium restaurant in Groton is now open with organists Steve Schlessing and Don Wallin holding forth at the console of the thirty-rank Wurlitzer. Even with only eleven ranks speaking to begin with, the organ sounds very well, indeed. Also, the pizza is good! Allen Miller has been engaged to perform final tweaking of the instrument which, incidentally, has been fitted with multiplexing electronic relays.

On December 4 and 5 Rosa Rio and Ted Malone will be on stage at the Thomaston Opera House. Their performance last year was a highlight of our concert season. For tickets and information contact Concert Tickets, P.O. Box 426, Seymour, Connecticut 06483. Telephone (203) 888-9696.

W. F. POWERS

DAIRYLAND Milwaukee

414/463-2365 or 414/771-8522

The lakeside Racine home of Fred and Veryl Hermes and their five-manual Wurlitzer was the site of this year's DTOS picnic on August 15. Members of CATOE, JATOE, and LOLTOS were invited to join us, and some traveled quite a distance to do so. The outdoor activities were preceded by open house and open console at the Riverside Theatre in Milwaukee. Visitors to the theatre enjoyed coffee, doughnuts, and guided tours, as well as the chance to hear and play the magnificent 3/13 Wurlitzer.

Back at the Hermes' home, picnickers enjoyed a feast with bratwurst, corn, and all the trimmings (including perfect weather). Gary Hanson led off the open console session as Fred demonstrated the special lighting effects of his basement theatre. Thanks, Fred and Veryl, for a very lovely day!

Our September social took us north to West Bend and the lovely home of Dick Daggett. The organ is a twelve-rank classical hybrid installed in a specially-built music room. Dick played a few selections, both classical and popular, which were followed by open console and refreshments. Many thanks to Dick for his gracious hospitality!

The mighty Riverside Wurlitzer

was heard September 25 as part of two shows given by the Meno-Har-Monee Barbershop Chorus. Gary Hanson played spotlight solos before the shows and during intermission. The audience loved it and even broke into a spontaneous sing-along several times. The organ never sounded better, and the theatre never looked better, thanks to the work done by the Riverside Committee. They not only spruced up the theatre, but also provided technical help during the shows.

Our next show will be at the Avalon Theatre on November 14. The featured artist will be Jerry Nagano making his first appearance in our area. We are looking forward to hearing him.

CARRIE NELSON

EASTERN MASSACHUSETTS Boston

617/244-4136 or 617/754-1508

After summer's hiatus, EM-CATOS resumed activities on September 26 at Babson with President Bill Carpenter at the helm. Reports were read, including that of newly appointed secretary, Gordon Creamer.

Tim Bjareby noted that all jobs have occupational hazards, even his as program chairman. The artist of the evening withdrew at the last moment — not an enviable predicament. This forced Tim to keep it "all in the family," and, instead of one organist, we had eight playing members, including Tim with his amusing style imitation of certain members. Even without preparation each gave a creditable performance with the varied stylings showing to good advantage the Wurlitzer's countless palettes of tonal color.

Next month's fall concert series brings Dennis James on October 23 and 24 in his eagerly anticipated first chapter appearance.

STANLEY C. GARNISS

KIWI Auckland, New Zealand 540-919

The date — September 12. The place — Starlight Cinema, Papatootoe. The event — Kiwi ATOS annual organ spectacular when a large and enthusiastic audience listened to members of the chapter on a variety of organs. Members taking part were John Davies, Bernard Strochi, Ian

Johnston, Richard Hore and Bill Mitchellhill. Assisting artist was Petit Ann Croul who gave a bracket of vocal numbers. This annual event helps to keep ATOS in the public eye, and also raises funds to help some deserving charity.

Four years ago, ATOS member Les Stenersen purchased a 2/8 Wurlitzer which was originally in the Regent Cinema in Auckland (see THEATRE ORGAN, Vol. 20, No. 6). Members of Kiwi ATOS, assisted by willing helpers, have now restored this instrument, and at a recent meeting several took the opportunity to play the organ and thrill to the magic sound of pipes. This was preliminary to the inaugural concert, hopefully early in November, when at a gala concert will again be heard the pipes of this wonderful music machine.

NORMAN DAWE



Detroit
313/537-1133

Some 600 conventioners from the Third International Sons of the Desert Convention meeting in Detroit converged on the Redford Theatre for a Laurel and Hardy Film Festival on Friday, July 30. Held on one of our regular bi-weekly movie weekends, the influx of Laurel and Hardy fans swelled our audience to near house capacity.

Arriving at the theatre in vintage motor cars, celebrities included two stars from the films to be shown that evening, Anita Garvin, who struggles valiantly to capture an elusive cherry that has escaped her fruit cup in *From Soup to Nuts* (1928 silent), and Rosina Lawrence, who plays Mary Roberts, the real heiress to the gold mine, in *Way Out West* (1937 sound). Fr. Jim Miller was at the console of the Redford Barton to accompany *From Soup to Nuts* and to provide music for a sing-along as well as incidental music throughout the evening.

The annual chapter picnic was held



Frank Doka (left) and Jerry Muethel have been busy restoring the formerly all-white Punch and Judy Wurlitzer console to its original walnut finish.

(Ray Van Steenkiste photo)



Harry Koenig performed at both the 3/10 Barton and the grand piano during his September program at the Redford Theatre.

(Bill Vogel photo)

at Murray Lake, a private park near Ann Arbor, on the first Sunday in August. Many chapter members took advantage of open console at a Baldwin electronic organ loaned by Smiley Bros. Music Company in Birmingham for the day-long event.

Harry Koenig appeared in concert at the Redford Theatre on September 18. Although most of his program, which consisted of audience-pleasing favorites and old standards, was presented at the console of the 3/10 Barton, Harry also showed his expertise at the grand piano on stage. His pro-

gram was well received by the enthusiastic audience, with proceeds going to the Cancer Research Fund at the Wayne State University School of Medicine.

Sigmund Ross, who began his career sixty years ago accompanying silent films, was the artist at our Fourth Sunday show at the Royal Oak Theatre in July. During his long career, Sig played in most of Detroit's better movie houses.

In August John Steele was featured at the console of the 3/16 Barton in the Royal Oak Theatre for our Fourth

Sunday program. John has played for three ATOS conventions and plays locally at Theater Organ Pizza and Pipes in Pontiac.

Presiding at the console of the Michigan Theatre Barton in Ann Arbor for our August Second Sunday program was veteran theatre organist Warren Colby, who began his career playing for silent films.

Barry Rindhage played for the September Second Sunday show at the Michigan's 3/13 Barton. Barry is from Saginaw and has played for many chapter functions.



Sigmund Ross was the artist at the Fourth Sunday program at the Royal Oak Theatre in July.

(Fred Page photo)



Veteran theatre organist Warren Colby appeared at the 3/13 Barton in the Michigan Theatre in Ann Arbor in August.

(Bo Hanley photo)



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The formerly all-white console of the 2/6 Wurlitzer in the Punch and Judy Theatre in Grosse Pointe is being restored to its original walnut finish by Jerry Muethel and Frank Doka. No First Sunday programs were scheduled at the Punch in August or September.

George Wright will appear at the Redford on November 27, and Ron Rhode and the Ford Chorus are scheduled there on December 11. For more information write: Motor City Theatre Organ Society, 17360 Lahser Road, Detroit, Michigan 48219.

DON LOCKWOOD

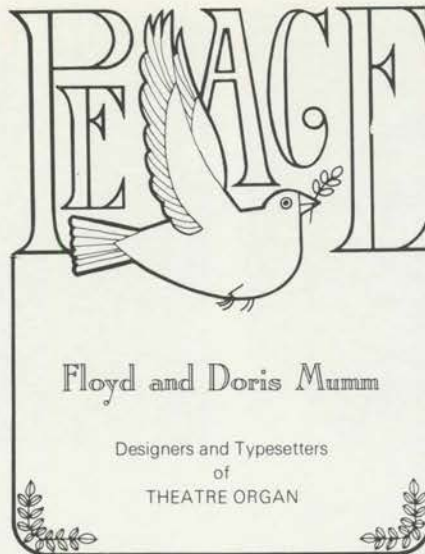


*Nor-Cal
Theatre
Organ
Society*

**San Francisco Bay Area
415/589-6683 or 415/524-7452**

Nor-Cal's August meeting was our annual picnic Sunday, August 15, at the home of Jack Gustafson in San Jose where a 3/10 Kimball/Wurlitzer is installed. Jack kicked off the festivities by opening the console to the membership. Jack is an accomplished organist and his artistry at the console inspired many to have a go at it. The chambers face a large sliding door which was opened to allow the picnickers outside to hear the organ.

Jack Gustafson's parents encouraged him to take piano lessons when he was eight years old. He wouldn't practice, so they sold the piano. When he was a freshman in Elmhurst, Illinois, high school he heard Ethel Smith's "Tico-Tico" record and took organ lessons. He played the Hammond organ in the high school auditorium and by the time he was a senior he helped install the 4/12 Gottfried/Wurlitzer in the Elm Roller



Rink in Elmhurst. He landed the job as resident organist at the rink when he was only seventeen. He later played in an ice rink.

He continued his organ studies with the late Dr. Edward Eigenshenk at the American Conservatory of



"Jack Gustafson Rides Again" at the 4/23 Wurlitzer in Redwood City, California. (Ed Mullins photo)

Music in Chicago. Jack played a number of concerts in the Chicago area and later, in the sixties, moved to California. He played at the Cap'n's Galleys Pizza & Pipes in Santa Clara and Redwood City for several years. He is currently rebuilding, tuning and servicing player pianos. He has three record albums to his credit recorded at Santa Clara, Redwood City and Campbell pizzerias.


Jack returned to Redwood City Sunday, September 19, to play a concert for Nor-Cal. His opening number was "Again," and Gustafson said, "after five years," he was back at this very familiar console. He knew his way around the 4/23 Wurlitzer from the Fifth Avenue Theatre in Seattle.

His rendition of "I Want to Be Happy" was remarkable for his two-handed percussion effect with the Xylophone leading into "Tea for Two" when he played the melody with his left hand using the Piano and Tuba with second touch while his right hand played very intricate embellishments on the Xylophone, ending with a triplet finale on the Xylophone.

Jack also has a lovely ballad style, as was evidenced in his "Smiling Through." He played a clean melody line and used two-handed portamentos effectively. His program was a well-balanced and well-chosen selection of pieces to satisfy all musical tastes. He played a tribute to the late Princess Grace of Monaco, "True Love." He concluded his program with a rousing Sousa march, "Under the Double Eagle."

We sincerely hope we won't have to wait another five years to get Jack Gustafson back on the bench again. Nor-Cal is indeed grateful to Jack for allowing us to have our picnic at his home and for giving us such a wonderful musical presentation.

ED MULLINS



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It rained on our picnic! We Oregonians never let a little rain stop us, though.

(Claude Neuffer photo)

**OREGON
Portland**

503/244-2141 or 503/253-6874

As customary, no chapter meeting was held in July, being replaced by the National Convention.

On August 29, amid a string of beautiful days, we scheduled our annual picnic at Blue Lake Park, a few miles east of Portland. We were assigned a lovely spot with outdoor tables, benches and trees to provide choice of sun or shade. However, we were betrayed by the weatherman and greeted with a light drizzle as we began to arrive. Then the heavens opened up with a heavy continuous downpour. As we were about to disband, a noble park attendant drove up in a pickup truck and, not only sent us to a nearby covered A-frame building, but also used his truck to move many of our food boxes and our coffee equipment to the protected location. Live electric outlets provided power for heating food and coffee. Such is the nature of our membership that, in spite of the weather and the understandably light attendance, everyone had a wonderful time. Fortunately, we did not have an outdoor pipe organ. It would have

blown bubbles. Thanks to our hero, the park attendant, who rescued us from a total washout.

September 18 and 19 we participated in an organ crawl with our good neighbors to the north, the Puget Sound Chapter. This began Saturday morning at the Olympic Theatre in Olympia, Washington, and featured Andy Crow, the famous Northwest

organist, at his 2/10 Wurlitzer. It is incredible what he can do with only two manuals, using presets and second touch.

Then, by bus and autos, members came down to Portland for an early evening dinner at the Organ Grinder restaurant. There, Paul Quarino was at his best playing the fantastic 4/44 Wurlitzer. No doubt the several ranks of 32'-ers did a good job of shaking down the fine pizza.

The next morning we assembled at the frightful hour of 9:30 at the Oaks Park Skating Rink. Here we heard the 4/18 Wurlitzer with the console enclosed in a small chamber with a glass window and the pipes unenclosed. The organ is suspended on a platform in the center of the rink and roars out in all directions uninhibited by any walls or shutters.

After a fast, stirring performance by veteran staff organist Don Simmons, we traveled across the Columbia River to Uncle Milt's Pipe Organ Pizza Co. in Vancouver. Milt gave us



Paul Quarino plays the Portland Organ Grinder 4/44 Wurlitzer.

(Claude Neuffer photo)



**DAVID
HAMILTON**

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a history and description of the 3/18 Wurlitzer, after which we were treated to a beautiful and artistic program by Wendy Kieffer. We were then allowed a generous open console session with many members playing.

Then it was back to Portland to the Roseway, the only theatre in Portland with a pipe organ. Here we saw Charlie Chaplin in a silent comedy accompanied by Bob Hansen and entertainment by Gerry Gregorious. The three-manual Morton console is located center stage, and the pipes are on the left side. Several additional ranks are to be added in a chamber being prepared on the right side. A 16' string is to go backstage. All of this will further enhance the organ in the fine acoustics of this theatre.

We are grateful to Puget Sound Chapter for joining with us in this unusual and most enjoyable event.

BUD ABEL

**PIKES PEAK AREA
Colorado Springs**

303/687-6530 or 303/633-4407

The Pikes Peak Area Theatre Organ Society hosted Phil Silberhorn of Lombard, Illinois, at their August meeting at the Colorado Springs City Auditorium. PPATOS members were deeply impressed with the playing skills of young Silberhorn who played a forty-five minute program on the 3/8 Wurlitzer.

Bob Boyer, producer of the society's weekly radio program, "Pipes, Pedals and Fidelity," recorded over three hours of Silberhorn's creative playing for future programs. This alone is quite a credit to Silberhorn as Boyer airs nothing but the finest quality theatre organ music on the program.

Silberhorn graduated from Lombard High School in June, and presently has thirty students under his di-



Don Simmons, at the Oaks Park Rink, plays a lively tune that goes to the feet of Bert Miller, of Vancouver, B.C. (Claude Neuffer photo)



Phil Silberhorn at the Colorado Springs Auditorium 3/8 Wurlitzer.

rection. Without exception, Phil Silberhorn is one of the most gifted artists the PPATOS has seen, and we hope he receives the justly due exposure to join the ranks of other up-and-coming professional theatre organists.

MARTIN G. MEIER

**PUGET SOUND
Seattle**

206/852-2011 or 206/631-1669

September meant a fantastic trip for our group. We hired a bus out of Seattle (some folks drove their own cars) and headed south. First stop, Olympic Theatre in Olympia, program and silent movie with Andy Crow on a Wurlitzer built in 1924 and installed in 1925. The theatre is scheduled to become a Performing Arts Center which should enhance the use

Donna Parker

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FRANK CIMMINO
Organist



Bob Hansen at the Roseway Theatre Robert-Morton.



Wendy Kieffer at Uncle Milt's Pizza in Vancouver, Washington.

(Christine Pride photo)

of this pipe organ. Andy's program was varied and competently performed. Also, we enjoyed several vocal solos by Carrie Richardson.

A tour of Tom Solberg's installation came next, and several members shared open console time. The Solbert Wurlitzer originated from the Liberty Theatre in Hoquiam, and in 1930, was expanded to nine ranks and installed in the Fox Theatre in Centralia.

It was a beautiful, sunny, warm afternoon and a great day for the safari to Portland where Paul Quarino and Russ Chilson gave us lots of space music and flashing lights with our pizza at the Organ Grinder. Whatever they are doing there, it must be right because they have people standing in line to get in for several hours on Friday and Saturday nights. The balcony is filled with video games and rides, and clerks are going about selling

tickets. It appeared as though the young people really enjoyed it.

Sunday morning Don Simmons played our concert at Oaks Park Skating Rink. He played as he might for the roller skaters. The pipes are suspended from the roof trusses over the rink. Very impressive sound! This is one of only three pipe organs that remain in roller rinks in the United States.

Wendy Kieffer played the concert at Uncle Milt's in Vancouver, Washington, on a Wurlitzer that came from Seattle's Orpheum Theatre. Wendy played with great authority. She really knows the instrument exceptionally well. Also, it was very obvious that she has been doing her homework. She's an excellent young musician. Following her program, many of us enjoyed the privilege of open console. It's still a great sounding instrument!

Last, but not least, our bus headed to the Roseway Theatre in Portland to hear the eight-rank Robert-Morton there. Gerry Gregorious began with a march, then "Always," and a nice arrangement of "Finger Fling." Gerry



Uncle Milt's in Vancouver, USA, welcomes the Puget Sound Chapter.

(Claude Neuffer photo)



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Gerry Gregorius at the Roseway Theatre in Portland.

(Christine Pride photo)



Lloyd Collins at Dick Lewis's 3/8 Marr & Colton.

(F. R. Gandy photo)

played with a lovely quiet style, and the organ displayed an exceptionally sweet mellow tone. Especially nice was his closing selection of songs from *Porgy and Bess*. Bob Hansen began after intermission again demonstrating the beauty of sound with this instrument. He not only plays well, but is also actively working with the voicing and expansion of this organ. Soon they expect to have eighteen ranks.

Hooray for our bus driver! It was a safe and wonderful journey!

CHRISTINE PRIDE

RED RIVER

Fargo

218/287-2671 or 218/236-9217

Our first business meeting after summer recess was held at Dave Knudtson's home on September 19. We discussed possible projects for the coming year, one of which is a souvenir booklet on the history of the Fargo Theatre. This would be a timely project since the theatre is now a historic landmark on the state level. Another proposal is for a recording by chapter members on the Fargo Theatre Wur-

litzer. Of the eight dressing rooms at the theatre, we are now using five and will make two more usable this fall. The meeting was followed by a report and slides, by Sonia Carlson, on the Detroit Convention and of the Pipes and Pizza Restaurant in Billings, Montana, which opened in 1981. To finish the evening, the chapter watched a video excerpt from their 1981 spring show.

The combination action and the Chrysoglott are installed now in the chapter organ at Weld Hall, Moorhead State University. The large and very heavy Chrysoglott was moved into the chamber in four sections and lifted into place with an electric chain hoist. This is an "economy model," with the Chrysoglott being the only percussion for the present.

SONIA CARLSON

ROCKY MOUNTAIN

Denver

303/343-3930 or 303/233-4716

Our regular meeting was held June 27 at the home of Dick Lewis in Lakewood. After the meeting we had a very charming gentleman entertain us

on Dick's 3/8 Marr & Colton which is installed in a three-car garage and is one of the neatest jobs ever beheld. Our organist of the day was Lloyd Collins from Red River Chapter. Lloyd opened with his background of playing at the Fargo Theatre and then hit all sixty of us between the ears with his regular opening theme coming up on the lift. WOW! He gave us a good hour and a half of some of the finest music in a long time.

On August 15 we held our annual picnic at the home of Jack and Nancy Walden in Loveland. Jack's 2/12 Kimball theatre pipe organ was in excellent shape, as usual. Harry Heth of Houston, Texas, was the organist of the day and really gave us a fine program. Harry came up last year and played on open console, so we invited him back to be the star this year, and star he did. Lunch was potluck, and everyone was pleased and well-fed.

Organ enthusiasts Eric Schröder and Ray Allan of Kynsna, South Africa, paid us a visit in July. Chapter President Guy Powell took them to the Denver Paramount and Aladdin Theatres, and to Dick Lewis's where they saw and played the organs. We



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Ray Krebs at the console, with Dr. John Dapolito looking on.



Wayne and Cheryl Seppala.

had a marvelous time with them, and Guy even took them up into the Rocky Mountains to Berthoud Pass where they had to put on jackets. A far cry from African temperatures.

At our September meeting at the Paramount Theatre, we were pleased to have Ray Young entertain us on the big Wurlitzer. Ray is currently appearing at the big lodge in Estes Park, Colorado. He is well-known in our part of the country because he was one of the featured organists at the Denver Organ Grinder. He plays for a church, teaches, and entertains when not asleep. Great music and entertainment for a Sunday afternoon meeting.

Saturday evening, October 16, we will have Bob Ralston at the console of the Wurlitzer in the Denver Paramount Theatre. Everyone is looking forward to this concert as Bob played in Colorado Springs last year with a tremendous foot-tapping and hand-clapping program.

We have been having all these

"goodies" this year because many chapter folks are pulling together and doing their jobs. Let us hope that 1983 will be another good year for us. We even had Hector Olivera in concert on September 8, doing a special Kawai DX series keyboard concert. Everyone who could get into the Vaughn/Knight Campbell music store auditorium had a wonderful time.

FRANK R. GANDY

SAN DIEGO California





714/489-5539 or 714/692-9194




August 1 was a gala celebration for the world premiere of the Allen model 675 three-manual theatre organ held at the home of Wayne and Cheryl Seppala. Through suggestions advanced by the ingenuity of Wayne to the Allen Organ Company, this exciting instrument was created. The joy of musical expression on this unique Allen was shared by many guests, in-


cluding talented Ray Krebs. Superb performances by Wayne and Cheryl followed. A great arrangement of "Taking a Chance on Love," and Rachmaninoff's "Prelude in G," an excellent representation of the classic sound, were interpreted by Wayne. A romantic interpretation of "Meditation," "Just One of Those Things," and an impressionistic arrangement of "Stardust" were Cheryl's expression in artistry.

September 4 was one of the hottest nights of the year, and it took a brave and dedicated audience to come out to the California Theatre to hear an organ concert. But come they did! And what a treat they had in store! Stan Kann was the organist in a program which pleased the listeners' ears.

Stan, who immediately strikes you with an abundant personality, is a good talker and has a sense of humor. Even his display of odd and old vacuum cleaners, however, could not detract from his well-prepared pro-




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Admiral and Mrs. Roger Paine, who bought the first Allen 675 off the production line.

gram. There was nothing he played that was not familiar, yet the pieces sounded refreshed as we were hearing them again after a long absence from programs. Of all the outstanding pieces he played, one of the best was "Gallop Comedians." Just before closing he played a medley of Victor Herbert favorites which pleased everyone.

A September 26 general meeting was held at the home of Deke and Dottie Warner in Escondido. Deke showed a videotape recording of an appearance by Stan Kann on the Sun-Up San Diego Show the day before his concert. This was followed by open console at Deke's three-manual organ.

JANE K. DAPOLITO
GALEN PIEPENBURG

SIERRA
Sacramento
916/726-5132 or 916/332-2837

June 20 Sierra presented "Emil Martin & Friends" at the Fair Oaks Community Club House. Emil presided at Sierra's 2/9 Wurlitzer with his friends playing drums, trumpet, piano, and two alternating on the

vocals, all coming together for a "pipe organ plus" concept that worked very well. The music was a collection of nuggets from the '20s, '30s and '40s. The positive audience response indicated that mixing pipes plus other instruments should be done more often, particularly in an effort to attract newcomers to our concerts who are not "pre-hooked" on the pipe organ. In publicity it can be billed as an instrumental combo, thus widening the appeal. This show also was Sierra's first experiment at selling food. The club house features kitchen facilities, so a crew headed up by none other than National Vice President Dale Mendenhall served to the concertgoers. Our thanks to Emil Martin for a great show and to Carroll Harris for setting it up and publicity.

With the National Convention always in July, Sierra Chapter takes a mid-summer break until August and our annual picnic. Held this year at the picnic facility just outside the Fair

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Oaks Club House, the pipes were within audible distance of the picnic tables. Following the feast and a brief board meeting, an open console session had several members playing, including Fred Dajas and "old pro" Bud Taylor.

Early in September Sierra's Wurlitzer went up to ten ranks with the addition of a reed best described as a Kinura/Krumet. Perhaps a "Krunura?" Anyway, it adds a nasal-buzzy reed to the original Style E's relatively smooth, some would say dull, specification. Other recently added ranks have been a String and Trumpet.

September 19 was a Sierra Members Concert with our local professionals and advanced hobbyists playing about twenty minutes each. Joy Lindberg did a very nice job at the chapter's 2/10 Wurlitzer, and John Wyatt added a new twist to the "pipe organ plus" idea as he was joined by a banjo player. The duo has had considerable opportunity to work out arrangements as they do their numbers regularly at the Pizza Machine's 2/10 Wurlitzer in Stockton. Also included for this program was chapter comedian Tim Rickman who did his Veg-a-matic demonstration parody called "Sledge-o-matic" with a sledgehammer as the do-all utensil. Tim customized the monologue for his ATOS audience to include how Sledge-o-matic cures bulky magnets, ciphering pipes, stuck keys, etc. It was a fun day with some surprisingly fine organ music, too.

RANDY WARWICK

SOONER STATE
Tulsa
918/742-8693 or 918/437-2146

Members and guests of Tulsa's Sooner State Chapter spent a delightful evening at the home of Perry and Pauline Catts for their August meet-

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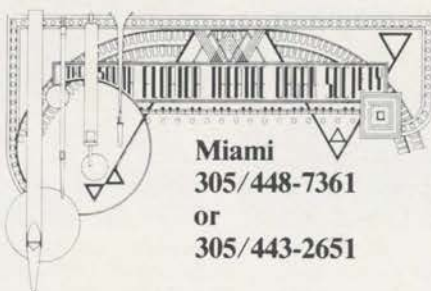
ing. Entertainment was open console on the three-manual Custom Rodgers, performed by several of our playing members. We also heard selections on the Bösendorfer grand piano played by new member Lorene Thomas. The business meeting included a presentation by Vice Chairman Bruce Wilson of the commitment required for installing our club's 3/10 Robert-Morton in the new Vo-Tech High School auditorium. As funds are limited, the chapter is undertaking to do most, if not all, of the work involved. This will entail participation by all members, not just the "dedicated few."

September found us at Central Assembly of God Church to hear a concert by Lorene Thomas on the 4/13 Robert-Morton. She had saved her organ music, from our August meeting, for this occasion. The instrument was formerly housed in Tulsa's Downtown Rialto Theatre. Three ranks have been added to the original theatre installation, but only the Chrysoglott remains of the original toy counter. Lorene's program was delightful and varied, some Richard Purvis selections, lots of George Gershwin, Widor's "Toccata" from his "Symphony No. 5," and Böellmann's "Toccata," all very well played. Lorene's style includes lots of full choruses, an infectious smile, and a bubbling personality.

Chairman Lee Smith announced that our anticipated concert by Rob Calcaterra is to be a reality! Rob, chief organist for Radio City Music Hall in New York City, is to perform on the 4/21 Wurlitzer in Christ Chapel at Oral Roberts University on October 23. As it is university policy not to charge admission to any events held in the chapel, our chapter members raised Rob's fee among themselves by pledges for the entire

amount. We feel this to be an exciting, and rare, opportunity for Tulsans to hear theatre organ, both older people who remember this glorious kind of music and younger ones who don't know what they're missing! And we hope this free concert will turn up other enthusiasts in our area who would like to join our group.

DOROTHY SMITH



Our 1982-83 season got off to a fine start on September 12 with a concert by Lin Lunde in Gusman Cultural Center. This is the old Olympia Theatre in downtown Miami with its original installation 3/15 Wurlitzer with

Piano and 32' Diaphone. Lin played an exceptionally fine concert and the organ sounded great! The theatre is beautiful. It was a bright sunny day and there was plenty of parking space just half a block away, but our audience was rather small. Despite this, it was still a good start because all who did come were very impressed and enjoyed it immensely.

The other concerts we have arranged for this season are: October 19, Rex Koury at André Hall, 4/15 Wurlitzer; December 1, Lyn Larsen at Calvin Jureit's 3/18 Kimball which has been completely rebuilt and revoiced by Dave Junchen; March, Rob Calcaterra at André Hall; April, Karl Cole at André Hall.

December 5 we are planning a large spectacular with the Pro Musica Orchestra at Gusman Cultural Center called "A Night in the Tropics." This will star Hector Olivera with a symphony orchestra in a "pops" concert featuring Latin music. Hector will be performing three major works with



Gusman Cultural Center, Miami, with original 3/15 Wurlitzer, including Piano and 32' Diaphone. Upper right corner of piano visible between chambers on left and proscenium.

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Gusman Cultural Center, Miami. Both chambers on this side, Solo above and Main below. Piano is unenclosed between chambers and proscenium.



Gusman Cultural Center, Miami. Console is now in the first box (originally at right side of orchestra). 32' Diaphone behind sky above console (no shutters).

the orchestra, Gershwin's "Cuban Overture," Rodrigo's "Guitar Concerto," and Gottschalk's "A Night in the Tropics." The rest of the afternoon will be the inimitable Hector.

RALPH ANDERSON



American Theatre Organ Society
VALLEY OF THE SUN CHAPTER
Phoenix
602/963-6259 or 602/955-0395

VOTS members have had a productive and profitable year thus far and are looking forward to an even more exciting fall.

The summer started by members contributing to a successful raffle by selling their share of tickets and then getting together for a fun evening at the Mesa Organ Stop for the drawing.

The June meeting was carpooled to Tucson and was hosted by the resi-

dent organist at Tucson's Organ Stop, Dave Wickerham. We had such a good time that the business meeting was postponed and we proceeded to hear a beautiful (but too short) concert by our host. The rest of June was spent on work nights for the organ at Phoenix College.

Our most devoted members attended the National Convention and the July meeting, later that month, was primarily concerned with letting everyone know just how good a time was had by all and, for future reference, what they had learned about hosting a convention. Hmm — next year San Francisco, but someday Phoenix . . . ?

Meanwhile, back to reality — fellow member and manager of the Mesa Organ Stop, Mike Everitt, had agreed to put on a benefit concert there. August 22 found us with a sold-out crowd and four of the very best organists, Lyn Larsen, Ron Rhode, Walt Strony and Lew Williams, giving us their time, talent and an outstanding program. Another talented organist and entertainer in our area,

David Lindsay, kept us all in stitches with his superb MCing capabilities. After each organist "did his thing," and they had really given us more than we thought possible, there came the "Finale." All the performers tried to show us that their talents extended far beyond playing the pipe organ. With Lew on the piano, Ron on the oboe, Walt on the viola, Lyn on the claviette and Dave on the organ, they played (???) "Yes, We Have No Bananas." You would have to see and hear it to believe it, but they really got an "A" for effort. They were all presented with plaques to express our gratitude and devotion for such a beautiful experience and a superior financial success. It really meant a difference in how well we will be able to work on our projects.

In September we held our annual picnic at the Keith residence in Prescott. This is the time of year when we all are ready for some respite from the valley's 100-degree-plus temperatures, so needless to say, a COOL time was had by all.

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Don Jenks at the console of the 3/12 Moller in the lobby of the Detroit Fox. (Carol Brown photo)



Bill Taber at the Detroit Fox 4/36 Wurlitzer. (Carol Brown photo)



Don and Shirley Jenks hosted our Wolverine Chapter picnic, during which we were entertained on their Rodgers 33-E. (Max Brown photo)



WOLVERINE CHAPTER

of the American Theatre Organ Society

Central & Lower Michigan
517/793-5418 or 616/364-0354

Our August meeting took the form of a potluck picnic at the home of our vice chairman, Don Jenks, and his wife, Shirley, in Brighton. We really appreciate the Jenks' sharing their beautiful home and spacious yard for this purpose. A number of our members provided the afternoon's entertainment by taking turns playing the Jenks' lovely-sounding Rodgers 33-E. Not only were our appetites satisfied by the wonderful array of food,

but our musical and social appetites were satisfied as well.

It is always a thrilling opportunity to visit the fabulous Detroit Fox Theatre, so it was indeed exciting to be able to have our September meeting in that magnificent structure! Prior to the concert, Don Jenks did a great job of playing the lobby 3/12 Moller pipe organ. Our special artist for this day was Bill Taber from the Akron, Ohio, area. He presented a very nice concert for us on the beautiful 4/36 Wurlitzer in the theatre. Bill has a delightful record to his credit, "The Civic Sound," recorded on the Akron Civic Theatre's Wurlitzer. After Bill's concert, open console provided several of

our members the rare thrill of playing that gorgeous instrument.

We are truly grateful to the Fox Theatre management for so kindly allowing us the use of the theatre for our chapter members only. Also, we very much appreciate the assistance of Greg Bellamy and his crew in serving as a liaison and in making the theatre and its organs available for our use.

Following our morning program at the Fox, a large group of our members gathered at the Theater Organ Pizza & Pipes in Pontiac for lunch and more organ music provided by John Steele.

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